**IMPORTANT SURGERY INFORMATION**

1. Do not eat or drink **ANYTHING** after midnight before your surgery. If you eat or drink the morning of surgery we may have to cancel or postpone your procedure.
2. If you are taking Aspirin, Coumadin, Plavix, fish oils or any other blood thinner, anti-inflammatory, or Phentermine/ Adipex; contact our office **AT LEAST** 2 weeks before your surgery date. Failure to stop these medications in the time you are advised to will result in a postponement of your procedure. This is done to prevent excessive bleeding during your surgical procedure. If you have any other questions about your medications, contact our office.
3. **The night before surgery, the facility where you will be having surgery performed will call you and tell you what time to be there.**  Please DO NOT call our office regarding the surgery time as we do not know the surgery schedule. This phone call may be as late as 6pm the night before surgery.
4. You do not need to bring your medications the day of surgery.
5. You may be given a prescription for physical therapy before you leave, or after surgery. Take this to **ANY** Physical therapy location and they will set you up with an appointment.
6. You will be given a post-op appointment before you leave after surgery. If this information is not given to you please call our office to find out when it is.
7. It is our office policy not to refill medications after hours, on weekends, or holidays. If you are getting low on medication, or it will not last until the next business day, please call our office. Our normal business hours are Monday- Friday 8:30am-5:00pm. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL YOU ARE OUT OF MEDICATION, AS IT COULD TAKE 24 HOURS TO APPROVE**. Please only leave one voice message, as multiple messages impedes promptness on returning calls. Thank You.
8. Between now and your surgery date, you will receive a call from the facility where you are having surgery to go over your financial obligation (your out of pocket expense) that is to be paid BEFORE your surgery. The representative that calls you will be able to answer any questions you have regarding the financial price of your upcoming surgery.
9. During the COVID-19 pandemic, some facilities are requiring elective cases to be tested for COVID-19. The facility will take care of getting everything scheduled for you.
10. **FOR SURGERY BEING PERFORMED AT COASTAL CAROLINA HOSPITAL, PLEASE MAKE SURE FAMILY MEMBERS STAY IN SURGICAL WAITING ROOM. DR. SUTHERLAND COMES OUT AFTER EVERY CASE TO SPEAK WITH FAMILY SO PLEASE MAKE SURE SOMEONE IS PRESENT TO DISCUSS YOUR SURGERY.**
11. Post operative appointment: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please call our office if you have any other questions not addressed by this letter.

(843) 705-9401

Dr. George Sutherland